News release

Exeter people join Met Office staff

11 July 2003

The Met Office today announced that its move to Exeter has directly resulted in more than 100 jobs for people from the area. The Met Office started recruiting staff in 2001 and already employs more than 70 from the area, many of whom are currently working in Bracknell.

Although recruitment to Met Office posts has now been put on hold until after the main move to the city, Group 4 Falck (GSL), which will be providing property and maintenance services, is actively recruiting. So far 28 local people are being employed by the company, with 50 more due to start soon. Whilst not providing permanent positions, more than 100 members of the Costain Skanska construction team - including sub-contractors - which is currently completing the Met Office's new headquarters, are from Exeter or the surrounding area.

Alan Douglas, Director of Relocation, said: "We said when we first announced we were moving to Exeter that some local staff would be recruited and we have been steadily doing so over the last two years. We have been very pleased with the level of interest shown. Once all our staff have arrived later this year, we will undertake further recruitment to cover posts left vacant because some staff have chosen not to relocate."

John Bates, spokesmans for GSL, said: "Local people have so far filled a variety of vacancies at the new Met Office. Recruitment is ongoing and we look forward to more people from the local community joining us in the coming months."

More about the Met Office relocation to Exeter

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